# PART 1345—INCENTIVE GRANT CRITERIA FOR OCCUPANT PROTECTION PROGRAMS

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Source: 63 FR 52597, Oct. 1, 1998, unless otherwise noted.

#### §1345.1 Scope.

This part establishes criteria, in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 405, for awarding incentive grants to States that adopt and implement effective programs to reduce highway deaths and injuries resulting from individuals riding unrestrained or improperly restrained in motor vehicles.

[70 FR 69080, Nov. 14, 2005]

## §1345.2 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to implement the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 405 and to encourage States to adopt effective occupant protection programs.

[70 FR 69080, Nov. 14, 2005]

## § 1345.3 Definitions.

Child restraint system means child safety seat.

Child safety seat means any device (except safety belts) designed for use in a motor vehicle to restrain, seat, or position a child who weighs 50 pounds or less.

First fiscal year means the first fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2003.

Minimum fine means a total monetary penalty which may include fines, fees, court costs, or any other additional monetary assessments collected.

Passenger motor vehicle means a passenger car, pickup truck, van, minivan, or sport utility vehicle.

State means any of the fifty States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Subsequent fiscal years means the second, third, fourth, fifth, or sixth fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2003.

Targeted population means a specific group of people chosen by a State to receive instruction on proper use of child restraint systems.

 $[63~\mathrm{FR}~52597,\,\mathrm{Oct.}~1,\,1998,\,\mathrm{as}$  amended at  $66~\mathrm{FR}$   $38918,\,\mathrm{July}~26,\,2001;\,70~\mathrm{FR}~69080,\,\mathrm{Nov.}~14,\,2005]$ 

## §1345.4 General requirements.

- (a) Qualification requirements. To qualify for a grant under 23 U.S.C. 405, a State must, for each year it seeks to qualify:
- (1) Submit an application to the appropriate NHTSA Regional Administrator demonstrating that it meets the requirements of §1345.5 and include certifications that:
- (i) It has an occupant protection program that meets the requirements of 23 U.S.C. 405;
- (ii) It will use the funds awarded under 23 U.S.C. 405 only for the implementation and enforcement of occupant protection programs;
- (iii) It will administer the funds in accordance with 49 CFR part 18 and OMB Circulars A-102 and A-87 and
- (iv) It will maintain its aggregate expenditures from all other sources, except those authorized under Chapter 1 of Title 23 of the United States Code, for its occupant protection programs at or above the average level of such expenditures in fiscal years 2003 and 2004 (either State or federal fiscal year 2003 and 2004 can be used);
- (2) After being informed by NHTSA that it is eligible for a grant, submit to the agency, within 30 days, a Program Cost Summary (HS Form 217) obligating the section 405 funds to occupant protection programs.
- (3) The State's Highway Safety Plan, which is required to be submitted by September 1 of each year, pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 402 and 23 CFR 1200, should document how it intends to use the Section 405 grant funds.
- (4) To qualify for grant funds in any fiscal year, the application must be received by the agency not later than February 15 of the fiscal year in which the State is applying for funds.

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- (b) *Limitations on grants*. A state may receive a grant in a fiscal year subject to the following limitations:
- (1) Beginning in fiscal year 2006, the amount of a grant under §1345.5 shall equal up to 100 percent of the State's 23 U.S.C. 402 apportionment for fiscal year 2003, subject to availability of funds.
- (2) In the first and second fiscal years beginning after September 30, 2003 that a State receives a grant, it shall be reimbursed for up to 75 percent of the cost of its occupant protection program adopted pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 405.
- (3) In the third and fourth fiscal years beginning after September 30, 2003 that a State receives a grant, it shall be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the cost of its occupant protection program adopted pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 405
- (4) In the fifth and sixth fiscal years beginning after September 30, 2003 that a State receives a grant, it shall be reimbursed for up to 25 percent of the cost of its occupant protection program adopted pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 405.

[63 FR 52597, Oct. 1, 1998, as amended at 66 FR 38918, July 26, 2001; 70 FR 69080, Nov. 14, 2005]

### § 1345.5 Requirements for a grant.

To qualify for an incentive grant, a State must adopt and implement effective programs to reduce highway deaths and injuries resulting from individuals riding unrestrained or improperly restrained in motor vehicles. A State must adopt and implement at least four of the following criteria:

- (a) Safety belt use law. (1) In fiscal years 1999 and 2000, a State must make unlawful throughout the State the operation of a passenger motor vehicle whenever an individual (other than a child who is secured in a child restraint system) in the front seat of the vehicle does not have a safety belt properly secured about the individual's body.
- (2) Beginning in fiscal year 2001, a State must make unlawful throughout the State the operation of a passenger motor vehicle whenever an individual (other than a child who is secured in a child restraint system) in any seating position in the vehicle does not have a safety belt properly secured about the individual's body.

- (3) To demonstrate compliance with this criterion, a State shall submit a copy of the State's safety belt use law, regulation or binding policy directive interpreting or implementing the law or regulation that provides for each element of paragraphs (a)(1) or (a)(2), as appropriate, of this section. The State is also required to identify any exemptions to its safety belt use law.
- (b) Primary safety belt use law. (1) A State must provide for primary enforcement of its safety belt use law.
- (2) To demonstrate compliance with this criterion, the State shall submit a copy of its law, regulation or binding policy directive interpreting or implementing the law or regulation that provides for each element of paragraph (b)(1) of this section.
- (c) Minimum fine or penalty points. (1) A State must provide for the imposition of a minimum fine of not less than \$25.00 or one or more penalty points on the driver's license of an individual:
- (i) For a violation of the State's safety belt use law; and
- (ii) for a violation of the State's child passenger protection law.
- (2)(i) To demonstrate compliance with this criterion, a Law State shall submit a copy of the law, regulation or binding policy directive interpreting or implementing the law or regulation that provides for each element of paragraph (c)(1) of this section.
- (ii) For purposes of this paragraph, a "Law State" means a State that has a law, regulation or binding policy directive interpreting or implementing the law or regulation that provides for each element of the minimum fines or penalty points criterion including the imposition of a minimum fine of not less than \$25.00 or one or more penalty points for a violation of the State's safety belt use and child passenger protection laws.
- (3)(i) To demonstrate compliance with this criterion, a Data State shall submit data covering a period of at least three months during the past twelve months showing the total number of persons who were convicted of a safety belt use or child passenger protection law violation and that 80 percent or more of all such persons were required to pay at least \$25 in fines, fees or court costs or had one or more